

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**MAYOR:** Louie A. Trujillo

**COUNCILORS:** David Ulibarri, Jr.  
David Romero  
Michael Montoya  
Elaine Rodriquez

William Taylor, City Manager- ***Absent***

**ALSO PRESENT:** Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk  
Scott Aaron, City Attorney  
Adrian Crespín, Sergeant at Arms

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Trujillo recognized first responders, healthcare workers and grocery store workers and many others for their hard work during this time of Covid-19. He asked for blessings and safety upon the community, that the Corona virus would go away and that a vaccine would become available very soon.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Clerk Fresquez advised that there was one amendment to the agenda, to postpone the last presentation on the agenda until the next meeting scheduled for November 11, 2020.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

City Clerk Fresquez advised that she received three emails regarding Public Input and read them into the record as follows:

Richard Lindeborg - opposition of possible closure of National & Highlands University diversion of traffic to University Avenue.

Susan Tsyitee - opposition concerns regarding closing National Avenue.

Meredith Britt - concerns against closing National Avenue.

Mayor Trujillo introduced "Honeysuckle", a 1 year old female lab/mix dog, ready for adoption at the Animal Welfare Coalition and informed that they always accept donations to help the needs of the shelter.

### **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT/REPORTS AND RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Trujillo advised that the Tree Board presentation would be postponed until the November meeting due to Covid-19 and informed that Las Vegas was again elected for Tree City USA and they were considering posting the flag at Plaza Park in honor of that.

### **COUNCILORS' REPORTS**

Councilor Montoya took the opportunity to recognize LVPD Officer Ralph Marquez for his kind gesture in assisting an elderly woman who was walking near Lowes Supermarket with a handful of groceries.

Councilor Rodriquez advised she received calls from residents commending the quick action of Code Enforcement regarding the properties in the Riverwalk area

and also for the barricades that were put up at the Riverwalk crossing that were damaged. She stated that she had received calls with concerns of the Police escorting the Trump parade. Councilor Rodriguez informed she had a real concern with a long standing problem of water issues, no answers from the Utilities Department, customers' and her personal experience with rude customer service regarding billing issues not being resolved. She stated that discussion needed to take place in order to resolve these issues.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. advised that some residents' concerns were regarding the need to replace old stop signs and placement of missing stop signs.

Councilor Romero stated that regarding future parades, proper procedures should be looked into in order to deal with any issues that may occur. He also suggested that pertaining to water issues, Utilities Director Maria Gilvarry should give a presentation to Council regarding how they are auditing water bills for accuracy.

Mayor Trujillo agreed with Councilor Romero and wanted to avoid these exorbitant costs to customers and they would be meeting about these issues.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Clerk Fresquez advised that City Manager Taylor was unable to attend council tonight's meeting but had provided the City Manager's Report to the Governing Body on Friday and would provide another report this upcoming Friday.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Erin Mufoletto with Comcast gave a lengthy presentation via phone call regarding what Comcast's investment in Las Vegas means to the City and what Comcast brings to the community in addition to the fiber internet.

Discussion and questions took place pertaining to the services offered by Comcast.

Deputy Fire Chief Spann gave a detailed presentation reporting on the fire hydrant testing results.



Discussion and questions took place regarding the testing process and of working conditions of some fire hydrants throughout the City.

Mary Feldblum with Health Security Plan and Pat Leahan with Peace and Justice Center gave a lengthy, detailed update on the NM Health Security Plan and stated she would provide further information to the Council through the City Clerk.

Lengthy discussion and questions took place regarding the state health plan, lower premiums, no more networks, administered plan by COOP, 2019 Legislature allocated funding for analysis of plan, coverage/services available and effects on larger employers.

Chip and Joanna Meston, owner of High Plains Meat Processing facility, briefed the Council on what had been done to improve the facility and their plans and needs for the future.

Mayor Trujillo stated for the record that the meat processing facility coming to Las Vegas was located South of town by the old church and the owners would be presenting.

Lengthy discussion and questions took place regarding the future meat processing facility, long term water usage, potential job opportunities/student scholarships and future evaluation of the needs to the facility.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Director Jesus Baquera presented the Finance Report for the month ending September 30, 2020 reporting the General Fund revenue at 27% with expenditures at 21%. He advised that Enterprise Funds revenue was at 22% and expenditures came in at 16% and Recreation Center revenue was at 22% with expenditures at 23%. Finance Director Baquera reported Lodgers Tax revenue at 84% and expenditures at 10% and he advised that gross receipt tax was \$20,000.00 less than last year and would be lower within the next few months. He advised there were no budget concerns to report to the Governing Body, regarding the budget.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Resolution 20-64 budget adjustment in the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget.

Finance Director Jesus Baquera advised that the City of Las Vegas is in need of making a budget adjustment in the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget to include an increase to fund 217 State Appropriations-LV Fire Department Fire Truck D3153 in the amount of \$450,000 to make final payment on LVFD fire apparatus.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve Resolution 20-64 budget adjustment in the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr. seconded the motion.

Resolution 20-64 was presented as follows:

**CITY OF LAS VEGAS NEW MEXICO**  
**Resolution Nol 20-64**  
**A RESOLUTION TO MAKE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE**  
**2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of Las Vegas has developed a budget adjustment request for fiscal year 2020-21; and

**WHEREAS**, said budget adjustment was developed on the basis of increases in revenues, expenditures and transfers (in) out through cooperation with all user departments, elected officials and other department supervisors, please see attached schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Las Vegas is in need of making a budget adjustment in the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget to include an increase to fund 217 State Appropriations-LV Fire Apparatus; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body finds that the budget adjustment request should be approved as it meets the requirements as currently determined for fiscal year 2020-21.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas, that the recitals and any exhibits are incorporated herein by reference and the Governing Body hereby approves the aforementioned budget adjustment request and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.



APPROVED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of October, 2020.

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Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST:

Reviewed and approved as to legal sufficiency only:

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Cassandra Fresquez, City Clerk

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Scott Aaron, City Attorney

All Councilors voted in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Discussion and request to work with New Mexico Highlands University and New Mexico Department of Transportation and others to determine the feasibility of accessing Bridge Street and the Plaza through the NMHU Campus via University Avenue rather than National Avenue.

Mayor Trujillo asked for the record, if this item had already been approved.

Brief discussion took place regarding Business Item 2, and that it had already been approved by previous council and administration as part of the MRA and the Comprehensive Master Plan.

Community Development Director Bill Hendrickson advised that the City of Las Vegas' Comprehensive and Metropolitan Redevelopment Plans past and present have recommended for economic reasons the realignment of these streets for accessing the downtown in a more direct route. In addition, using University Avenue and the closing of National through the Campus will unify the campus and improve safety for students and staff that routinely cross National for classes and businesses.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding issues pertaining to the ownership of University Avenue, negative and positive impacts to businesses of closing National Avenue and making University Avenue a two way street.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilor Romero made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the discussion of the sale and acquisition of real property, as permitted by Section 10-15-1 (H)(8) of the Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978. Councilor Rodriquez seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	Yes	Elaine Rodriquez	Yes
David Romero	Yes	David Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Romero made a motion to reconvene into Regular Session and advised that only matters in the motion were discussed and no action was taken. Councilor Rodriquez seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Elaine Rodriquez	Yes	David Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

## **ADJOURN**

Councilor Romero made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Rodriquez seconded the motion. All Councilors voted in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

  
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Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST:

  
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Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk